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MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 17 March 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of March 1994, I have the honour to transmit herewith the conclusions of the meetings of the group of 12 Somali political factions, held in Cairo from 1 to 7 March 1994.

I request you to have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 72 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Ahmed ALHOUDERI
Permanent Representative of the
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the
United Nations
Chairman of the Arab Group

* A/49/50.

Annex

Conclusions of the meetings of the 12 Somali factions held in Cairo from 1 to 7 March 1994

I. INTRODUCTION

The leaders of the group of 12,

Guided by the Addis Ababa Agreement of 27 March 1993,

Taking account of the importance of the participation of all Somali factions in efforts for national reconstruction if the State is to be restored, and convinced that the exclusion of any of the factions, whether or not they were participants in the Addis Ababa or Cairo meetings, cannot serve the process of national reconciliation, reconstruction and the restoration of law and order in the country,

Aware of the difficulties that have faced the Somali people since the signing of the Addis Ababa Agreement,

Cognizant of the efforts made by the Somali people and the international community to reach a permanent solution to the current Somali crisis,

Convinced that the time has come for reconciliation among us and for us to join hands in assuming our responsibility to history to save our nation and our beloved homeland,

Profoundly motivated to overcome our past differences and past enmity,

Responding forcefully to the wishes of our people, which aspires to peace and a life of dignity,

Responding to the voices raised by the people of Somalia and the international community calling for an end to the bloodshed and destruction,

And choosing the principles of tolerance and political coexistence,

Do hereby welcome the disinterested initiative of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt in bringing together the Somali political movements with a view to reaching a durable political solution that will restore State unity and sovereignty to the Somali Republic and, in this connection, propose the following programme of action as a basis for political reconciliation among all the Somali political factions.

II. BASIC PRINCIPLES

The leaders of the group of 12 have agreed that the basic principles governing the implementation of this programme should stem from the following guidelines:

1. That any decision or initiative for the advancement of the national reconciliation process must be based on the Addis Ababa Agreement and on the interim constitution to which reference is made hereunder and which shall be agreed upon by the Transitional National Council.

2. Respect for and the protection and maintenance of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Somali Republic.

3. Adherence to the principles of dialogue and mutual understanding and adoption of compromise solutions as a basis for the resolution of the Somali crisis.

4. The repudiation of violence as a means of resolving political disputes in Somalia.

5. Respect for the principles of justice, equality and free and fair elections so as to establish a multi-party democratic system.

6. Respect for basic human rights and for the rights of Somali citizens.

7. Collective rejection of any opposition to the collective decisions to be reached, and adoption of a common political and military position.

8. Priority for the restoration of basic social services and infrastructure.

9. The speedy revival of the national economy in accordance with the principles of the free market economy.

10. Cooperation with the international community.

11. Establishment of good and fraternal relations on a basis of good neighbourliness, cooperation with the neighbouring countries in the region, full respect for sovereignty, and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State.

III. TRANSITIONAL NATIONAL SALVATION COUNCIL

Given that the National Salvation Council is still at the formative stage, taking into consideration the need to establish structures within the State for the purpose of restoring national sovereignty and saving Somalia from the predicament in which it finds itself, and inspired by the patriotic wishes of the people of Somalia, we have reached agreement on the following:

1. Establishment of a Transitional National Salvation Council to consist of 17 members, as follows:

(a) The 15 leaders of the Somali political factions that signed the Addis Ababa Agreement, including His Excellency General Mohamed Farah Aidid, Chairman of the United Somali Congress;

(b) The Chairman of the Somali National Movement, which participated in the National Reconciliation Conference of March 1993 as an observer;

(c) His Excellency Mr. Ali Mahdi Muhammad, whose membership was decided in accordance with the Addis Ababa Agreement.

2. The basic functions of the Transitional National Salvation Council are:

(a) To represent and give expression to the sovereignty of the Somali Republic;

(b) To legislate;

(c) To form and oversee the interim government;

(d) To complete the formation of the Transitional National Council;

(e) To establish public institutions.

3. The members of the Transitional National Salvation Council shall not be members of the interim government, who shall be chosen from among qualified national personnel of distinction.

4. The members of the Transitional National Salvation Council shall become part of the Transitional National Council, as stipulated in the Addis Ababa Agreement, on the election of at least two thirds of the members of the Transitional National Council.

5. Following the election of two thirds of the members of the Transitional National Council, the functions of the Salvation Council shall be transferred to the Transitional National Council, which shall function in accordance with the Transitional National Charter to be agreed upon within the two-year transitional period stipulated in the Addis Ababa Agreement.

6. The Transitional National Council shall be established within three months with effect from the date of implementation of this programme, and in the event that the formation of the Council is not completed within this period the members elected to the Transitional National Council shall join the Salvation Council until such time as the Transitional National Council is established.

7. The Transitional National Salvation Council shall elect every three months from among its members a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen on a rotation basis until such time as the Transitional National Council is established. The Chairman of the Somali National Movement and the Chairman of the Somali National Alliance, General Mohamed Farah Aidid, shall preside over the Salvation Council as part of the rotation.

8. The Chairman shall be elected every three months by simple majority vote.

9. The members elected to the chairmanship of the Transitional National Salvation Council may not be re-elected for a second term.

IV. FORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

1. The government shall be formed in a balanced manner on the basis of equality and fairness.

2. The Chairman of the Transitional National Salvation Council shall consult with the other members of the Council on the appointment of a prime minister to form a government.

3. The government shall present its programme with a view to securing the agreement and confidence of the Transitional National Salvation Council by simple majority vote.

4. The members of the government shall be appointed from among qualified persons on a basis of equality.

V. MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES

1. The leaders of the political movements, including the Somali National Movement and the Somali Democratic Alliance, shall meet in Mogadishu before the end of March 1994 to discuss the implementation of the provisions of these decisions with their fellow leaders and with the other factions and groups.

2. This programme shall be submitted in writing to the Chairmen of the Somali National Movement and the Somali National Alliance in an appeal to them to join the ongoing process in the hope that their response to these efforts will be positive and cooperative.

VI. PREPARATION OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL ELECTIONS

During the two-year transition period, the Transitional National Council shall undertake a population census, civil status registration and other measures in preparation for the elaboration of a national constitution leading to free and fair elections on the basis of a multi-party democratic system, with the support and assistance of the international community and in the presence of international observers.

VII. APPEAL

1. The leaders of the group of 12 appeal to the international community, and in particular to the United Nations, the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the United States of America, the members of the European Union, fraternal countries and the countries bordering on Somalia, to support the implementation of the provisions of these decisions on the basis of the principles of broad participation and justice.

2. The leaders of the group of 12, imbued with a spirit of fraternity and good faith, appeal to the Chairman of the Somali National Movement and the Chairman of the Somali National Alliance to participate in the implementation of this programme and thereby give expression to the sincerity of their intentions to engage in dialogue at any place and at any time with the goal of settling any matters that might prevent participation in the genuine reconciliation efforts now under way.

SIGNATORIES TO THE DECLARATION:

	Name of leader	Organization	Signature
1.	Mohamed Ramadan Arbow	Somali Africans Muki Organization (SAMO)	(Signed) [Illegible]
2.	Mohamed Farah Abdullahi	Somali Democratic Alliance (SDA)	(Signed) [Illegible]
3.	Abdi Muse Mayo	Somali Democratic Movement (SDM)	(Signed) [Illegible]
4.	Ali Ismael Abdi	Somali National Democratic Union (SNDU)	(Signed) [Illegible]
5.	Omar Hagi Mohamed	Somali National Front (SNF)	(Signed) [Illegible]
6.	Mohamed Ragis Mohamed	Somali National Union (SNU)	(Signed) [Illegible]
7.	Aden Abdillahi Noor	Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM)	(Signed) [Illegible]
8.	Mouhamed Abshir Musse	Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF)	(Signed) [Illegible]
9.	Abdi Warsame Isaaq	Southern Somali National Movement (SSNM)	(Signed) [Illegible]
10.	Mohamed Qanyare Afrah	United Somali Congress (USC)	(Signed) [Illegible]
11.	Abdurahman Dualeh	United Somali Front (USF)	(Signed) [Illegible]
12.	Mohamed Abdi Hashi	United Somali Party (USP)	(Signed) [Illegible]